

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/078,498	NAKAMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matt P Hodges	2879	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment Filed 9/16/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-7,9,11,12,17,18,20,21,24-27,29,31,32,37,38 and 40-52.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 2/21/2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The Amendment, filed on 9/16/2004, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Cancellation of claims 8 and 28 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 11, 12, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24-27, 29, 31, 32, 37, 38, and 40-52 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1 and 21, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 1 and 21, and specifically comprising the limitation of light source where the width of an EL layer varies over a distance from the contact point between the electrode and the lead as the function of the distance.

Regarding claims 41 and 48, claims 41 and 48 are allowable for the reasons given in claims 1 and 21 because of their dependency status from claims 1 and 21.

Regarding claims 4 and 24, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 4 and 24, and specifically comprising the limitation of a light source including a transparent substrate, a transparent electrode laminated on the substrate, a lead laminated on a part of the peripheral portion of the transparent electrode, an electroluminescent layer laminated on the transparent electrode and the lead, and a metallic electrode layer.

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Regarding claims 5 and 25, claims 5 and 25 are allowable for the reasons given in claims 4 and 24 because of their dependency status from claims 4 and 24.

Regarding claims 6 and 26, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 6 and 26, and specifically comprising the limitation of light source including red, green and blue colors where the width of each electroluminescence layer depends on the light emitting capability of the specific emitted color with regards to the illumination of a document required for reading an image of the respective colors.

Regarding claims 7, 27, 42, 43, 44, 49, 50, and 51, claims 7, 27, 42, 43, 44, 49, 50, and 51 are allowable for the reasons given in claims 6 and 26 because of their dependency status from claims 6 and 26.

Regarding claims 9 and 29, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 9 and 29, and specifically comprising the limitation of light source including red, green and blue colors where the position of each electroluminescence layer depends on the light emitting capability of the specific emitted color with regards to the illumination of a document required for reading an image of the respective colors.

Regarding claims 45, and 52, claims 45, and 52 are allowable for the reasons given in claims 6 and 26 because of their dependency status from claims 9 and 29.

Regarding claim 20, claim 20 is allowable for the reasons given in claims 6 and 9 because of its dependency status from claims 6 and 9.

Regarding claims 11 and 31, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 11 and 31, and specifically comprising the limitation of plurality of light source pieces where a plurality of joint portions jointing each light source piece to provide one light source where the width at the end of the light emitting layer of each of the light source pieces is larger than the width in the center.

Regarding claims 12 and 32, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 12 and 32, and specifically comprising the limitation of plurality of light sources where the end face of the lateral side of the light source is slanted in relation to the lateral direction of the light source.

Regarding claims 17 and 37, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 17 and 37, and specifically comprising the limitation of plurality of light sources where the end piece of the light source is L-shaped.

Regarding claims 18 and 38, claims 18 and 38 are allowable for the reasons given in claims 17 and 37 because of its dependency status from claims 17 and 37.

Regarding claim 40, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 40, and specifically comprising the limitation of an image reading apparatus including a lens for reading an original document image, two electroluminescence light sources formed by jointing a plurality of light source pieces, arranged at the right and left of the lens, and joint portions of the respective light source pieces installed at right and left are formed at different positions in the longitudinal direction of the lens.

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Regarding claims 46 and 47, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claims 46 and 47, and specifically comprising the limitation of light source where the thickness of the EL layer is reduced gradually with increased distance from the contact point between an electrode layer and a lead.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Proctor (US 6,396,218) discloses the use of EL layers of red, blue, and green as an illumination source for a scanner.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matt P Hodges whose telephone number is (571) 272-2454. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

mph



Joseph Williams
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